

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Page 18, first and second full paragraphs, please amend as follows:

Provisionally-retaining member (or mechanism) for holding the front holder 4 in the provisionally-retaining position during the insertion of the front holder 4 into the housing 3) and completely-retaining member (or mechanism) for holding the front holder 4 in the completely-retaining position are provided between the housing 3 and the front holder 4.

In the first embodiment, the provisionally-retaining member includes the pair of right and left side retaining member 25 which are provided respectively exteriorly of the right and left sides of the terminal receiving area (when viewed from a direction A of insertion of the front holder 4 into the housing 3) where the plurality of terminal receiving chambers 5 are provided, and the center retaining member (or mechanism) 26 provided above the terminal receiving area. In this embodiment, the completely-retaining member includes this center retaining member 26. Namely, the center retaining member 26 serves as part of the provisionally-retaining member and also as the completely-retaining member.

Last paragraph on page 27, bridging to the top of page 28, please amend as follows:

A lock portion ~~440~~110 for locking a mating connector (not shown) in a fitted condition is formed on an upper face of the outer peripheral wall 107 of the housing 103. The lock portion ~~440~~110 includes an arm portion 111 which is fixedly secured at one end thereof to a support portion 107a of the outer peripheral wall 107, and has the other end portion (free end portion) extending toward a rear side of the housing 103, a retaining projection 112 formed on an upper

face of the free end portion of the arm portion 111, and an operating portion ~~13~~113 formed on that portion of this free end portion disposed rearwardly of the retaining projection 112. Dovetail grooves 114 are formed respectively in right-left symmetrically-disposed portions of the support portion 107a of the outer peripheral wall 107, and these dovetail grooves 114 are open to the inner face of the outer peripheral wall 107.